

THE FALL ISSUE | 2025

# THE CROSSINGS

## Growing Up



A PUBLICATION OF



HOPE CHURCH

# Growing Up

by David Lenz, Lead Pastor



In the Christian life, spiritual growth is not guaranteed. As his challenging parable of the sower conveys (Matthew 13, Mark 4, Luke 8), Jesus is realistic about this dynamic for those who would follow him.

Some never really get started with Jesus. The gospel seed falls along the beaten-down path where there is little chance of it being implanted. This is a mystery that often grieves us as we wonder why family members and beloved friends don't respond to Jesus.

Some have the illusion of growth. For a moment their faith shines brightly only to disappear as quickly as it emerged. Why? They were not deeply rooted in Jesus, the gospel seed having fallen on the rocky ground of their life. When troubles come, faith dissipates.

Some emerge with sincere faith. But the gospel seed has fallen among the thorns, the cares of the world and the lure of wealth and things, and ultimately such a faith is choked out.

Some manifest true and genuine faith. The gospel seed falls on good soil. These blessed people receive the Word of God and understand it (or stand under it!). This growing faith yields a harvest of varying dimensions.

Faith is a gift, as our Reformed theological heritage emphasizes. But tending to that gift is a choice. The Apostle Peter, who learned about spiritual growth in the school of his personal failures, says this: grow up! "Grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18). The word used for grow is an imperative (a command!) and in the present tense, suggesting ongoing action. While we have breath in this life, we never graduate from the process of spiritual growth.

Growing up is the theme for Year 2 of our Journey to 75, the celebration of Hope Church's 75th anniversary in 2029. Using the image of a tree, we move from a focus on being deeply rooted in Jesus to the dynamic of growth happening above the soil.

This fall we will focus on biblical dynamics of growing up. We will learn from Jesus' experiences of growing up, as well as from those of Moses, Samuel, and David from the Old Testament, and Timothy from the New Testament.

These stories of growing up are complicated, as are our own stories. Often it is challenge that propels growth. Sometimes growth is helped by the gift of loving family.

Our intention and effort to grow spiritually matters. But, in the end, we can rest in this assurance, "God gives the growth!" (1 Corinthians 3:7). What a joy when our effort to be faithful is met by the goodness and grace of God, who always goes before us.

Loving and Merciful God, grow your people at Hope Church!

Your Pastor,  
David Lenz



(Cover) Groups gathered and worked together to plant trees at the Annual Meeting on May 18, 2025.

# Sabbatical Refreshment

by KC DiNardo, Associate Pastor for Discipleship

**T**hank you Hope Church for honoring me with the gift of a three-month sabbatical.

The themes of closer in community and prayer were at the heart of all I experienced on sabbatical, and it was very refreshing.

I spent joy-filled times with family and friends on the West coast, the East coast, on lakes in Wisconsin, on the North Shore and closed my time with a silent retreat at Pacem in Terris in Isanti, MN. God met me in the quiet.

I enjoyed writing in journals, reading books, letting Scripture speak to me and crafting some prayers and poetry. The first week of my sabbatical I wrote this:

## Being with God

Being with God  
Is being IN God  
Resting in His love  
for me  
for others  
for the world.  
Being with God  
is like being with  
your best friend.  
Catching up  
Laughing  
Tearing up  
Smiling  
Being with God  
is the best  
Because I can just  
be who I am  
And He can just  
be who He is  
And it is good.  
I long for more days  
more time  
more moments  
to just be with God.

4/29/25

One of the fun things I did was read through old journals from high school and college. Some don't need to be read again—by anyone! But what I realized is that God made me ME and it was the same me back then, he's just been forming me and loving me all these years.

In 1993 I helped lead a group of youth through the Wind River Mountain Range of Wyoming. It was a hard core 10-day backpacking trip filled with magnificent beauty, but also tough challenges and learning experiences. After I had led my group through an especially difficult stretch I wrote, "Sometimes I need to remember that I just do my share and wait. I can't 'make' things happen. That's for God to do." I love that God laid that on my heart over 30 years ago!

God met me in prayer. At the heart of prayer is pure joy with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit—and bathing in the sweet, pure, complete relational presence of the triune God.

The day before my last day of sabbatical I wrote this in my journal: "Jesus, lover of my soul, thank-you for meeting me on sabbatical and always. May I take away many sweet morsels into work life as I return. You are the source of my strength. Because of you I will not be shaken. I cling to you now and forever. Amen." 7/22/25

I am delighted to be back at Hope Church and look forward to the ways God will continue to bless this time away in me and for the people of Hope.



(Right) KC DiNardo visits Grand Marais on a North Shore excursion on July 8, 2025.



# My Growing Up Experience

by Kent Karnick, Covenant Partner

My Christian faith started in the Catholic Church. My parents were committed to raising 4 boys in a good place. I remember the reverence for Mass along with the Stations of the Cross during Lent. I was baptized and confirmed in the Catholic Church. My faith in high school took a big step forward at an FCA ([fca.org/what-is-fca](http://fca.org/what-is-fca)) camp at St. Olaf college. The final night of the camp is when Jesus became alive and real to me. I remember the room and seat where this occurred. These are the foundations for my Christian faith.

I have lived my faith out with others who desire to know God and who he is. This shows up in Bible studies, involvement in church communities and outreach via street ministry.

The many Bible studies have allowed me to learn about God through the eyes of others. They help me interpret scripture and understand how God has worked in their life. Bible believing Church has shown me how to work with Jesus followers to provide a safe place to explore why God loves me and others. This has also shown me how imperfect people work together with a perfect God. I am thankful for the time people have put into my life. As I look back I see how important it is to put myself in a position to hear from God.

One example is prayer. Intellectually and biblically I believed this was important. How did this show up in my day to day life? It didn't very well. I signed up for a prayer letter

many years ago. I received the weekly updates. Did I pray every time? No... What's up with that? However, I did eventually read the emails and joined a weekly prayer group, and now prayer is a bigger part of my walk with Jesus followers. Hope Church is providing me a great place to continue to grow my faith. This includes among other things, meeting with men weekly to understand and study the Word, Sunday morning class, and of course time of worship on Sunday.

There is so much more to share. Let's learn how each other have become a Jesus follower.

I have lived my faith out with others who desire to know God and who he is.



(Left) Kent and Janet Karnick smile as they become Covenant Partners.

(Opposite left) Nick Greener and Arben Hoti pose in front of a water tower in Zimbabwe.

(Opposite right) Maxwell teaches as he stands in the garden.

# Carrots and Peppers and Onions, Oh My!

by Susie Prin, Covenant Partner

As we stand in the sunshine in the 70 degree (above zero!) Zimbabwe winter, we admire the rows of healthy, green vegetables in the large garden at Fountain of Life church. Maxwell gestures to the fence around us, made of tree branches left over from hand-clearing the land. We look around and see piles of long sticks and composting corn stalks left from last season's harvests near the garden squares in rows, which are carefully built up to resist flooding in the rainy season while holding in the topsoil and nutrients.

The planted 3-1/2-foot squares cradle the good topsoil amended with locally sourced manure and compost, nourishing the tomatoes, peppers, onions, carrots, and other vegetables as they grow.

Maxwell invites villagers to come here to teach them how to garden naturally, without using tractors, commercial insecticides, or chemical additives. Because it is literally "home-grown," expenses are minimal: only seeds and string to support the plants need to be purchased. His teaching textbook is *Gardening God's Way* by Grant Dryden.

He clearly loves his job, explaining that machinery strips away the topsoil, damaging the beneficial worms and termites that help aerate the soil. Gardening God's way is a do-it-yourself project with your neighbors—the gardens supply food for families, and what is extra is available to share or to sell. There is only one more thing needed besides knowledge and sweat equity: water.

Our team of nine gathered for the first time in person in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe on May 23: Nick, Jen, Christian, and Ava Greener from Cape Town, South Africa; Peggy Turnbull, Heidi and Aaron Connors, and me from Hope Church, and Arben Hoti from Kosovo.

Arben and his wife, Blerina, are long-time friends of mine. My late husband John and I served on mission teams with the Hotis. Arben heads up Water for Life in Kosovo. I watched Nick and Arben connect over water projects, comparing methods, problem-solving. Just a couple of Christian guys from very different parts of the planet walking out their mutual call to bring the essentials of clean water and the Gospel to those who need it so much.

I am still in awe at how John's and my saying yes to God's invitation in 2000 to go serve in Kosovo is now bearing fruit 25 years later, far away on another continent. Gardens were not the only things growing on this trip. Our hearts did quite a bit of growing too!

I am still in awe at how my saying yes to God's invitation is now bearing fruit 25 years later.



## PNC Update

by Debbie Bell and Kevin Dybdal, PNC Co-Chairs

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6

The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) continues to meet regularly and prayerfully as we seek the next Lead Pastor/Head of Staff for our church. We are being supported by both Dana Allin, our ECO Synod Executive, and Becky Walker, our ECO Presbytery partner. Our initial work is listening to you—through surveys and focus group sessions—so we can faithfully represent our congregation in the search process.

Your input is helping us write an Opportunity Profile, which tells the story of who we are as a church and describes the kind of leader we're praying for. Once complete, the profile will be shared broadly to invite candidates to apply.

Later this fall and early winter, we'll begin reviewing applications and conducting initial interviews. We are trusting that God is already preparing the heart of the person he is calling to lead Hope into its next chapter. Our hope is to present this person to you in the spring of 2026.

Please continue to pray with us for wisdom, unity, and clear direction. We're deeply thankful for your trust, participation and faithful support during this important season.

In prayer and partnership,

PNC Co-chairs Debbie Bell and Kevin Dybdal along with Committee Members Justin Bratnobar, Kirsten Berry, Ellen Egelston, Yonathan Moya, Vickie Rico, Dan Ritchie and Matt VanHove

[PNC@hope-pc.org](mailto:PNC@hope-pc.org)

(Right) Wade Johnson and Kim Laufenburger commission the Pastor Nominating Committee on June 29, 2025.

(Opposite) Mary Blazanin smiles in the Crossover Cafe on May 4, 2025.





## A Journey of Faithful Giving

by Kevin Dybdal

**M**y wife Wendy and I have been part of the Hope family for 40 years. We joined when we were newly engaged and searching for a church home. Over the years, our journey at Hope has been deeply shaped by God's provision and by the practice of stewardship.

I grew up on a farm in west central Minnesota, where faith and farming went hand in hand. My parents and grandparents were strong Christians. Sundays were sacred—fields sat idle, and we gathered for worship, trusting God for the rain, sun, and harvest. My father, even in the uncertainty of farm income, was steady in his giving. That left a lasting impression on me.

In college, though I didn't have much, I, too, started giving to the church regularly. Later, as I began my career, I continued to grow in my commitment, gradually increasing my offering as I worked toward tithing—first from what was left after expenses, then moving toward giving from my full income.

But I'll admit: remembering to bring cash or checks, was often a challenge. Then there were the times I was sick or on vacation. It was sometimes hard to be consistent. I first heard about online giving during a Sunday message from Ben Ford, but I didn't act right away.

Then came 2020. COVID changed everything—including how we worship and give. That's when I finally set up recurring online gifts. And to my surprise, it brought peace. I no longer worried about forgetting or missing a Sunday. Giving became a steady habit, and I found myself a more cheerful giver.

As a member of Session and the Stewardship and Hope Fund committee, I'm continually moved by the generosity of this congregation. God has truly blessed our family through this journey and I trust He will bless yours too.



## Welcome to Our New Staff

Grace Hayes and Lauren Puncchar joined Hope Church's staff team on June 2. Please introduce yourself if you haven't met them already.



*Grace Hayes, Office Manager*

Grace is the smiling face at the front desk and voice that you will hear when you call Hope Church. She has a heart for people and serving others. Grace has degrees from Bethany Global University and Liberty University. She also spent a season with YWAM. Grace grew up in Michigan but now resides in Eden Prairie. When she's not working, she enjoys finding good deals at thrift stores, cuddling up with her dog and reading a good book, and spending quality time with her close friends.



*Lauren Puncchar, Communications and Adult Discipleship Associate*

Lauren is the creative force behind Hope's communications including our weekly email, website, and social media. She will partner with Pastor KC in carrying out discipleship pathways and programs. Lauren has a heart for storytelling and relationships that have Jesus at the center. She is a graduate of Bethel University and lives in Lakeville. When she's not working, she enjoys spending time with friends, going on walks, and discovering new coffee shops.



(Above) Kathy Rumppe sits at a table with other Alpha attendees.

## Alpha

**September 17–November 12**

**6:00–8:00 pm | Portland Worship Center**

Each night we'll enjoy a meal, watch a short film on a topic of the Christian faith, and have discussions at table groups—all ideas welcome. Watch for registration information and think of who you could invite! This is a transforming course and a great next step for you at Hope Church. Contact [kc@hope-pc.org](mailto:kc@hope-pc.org)



## This is Hope

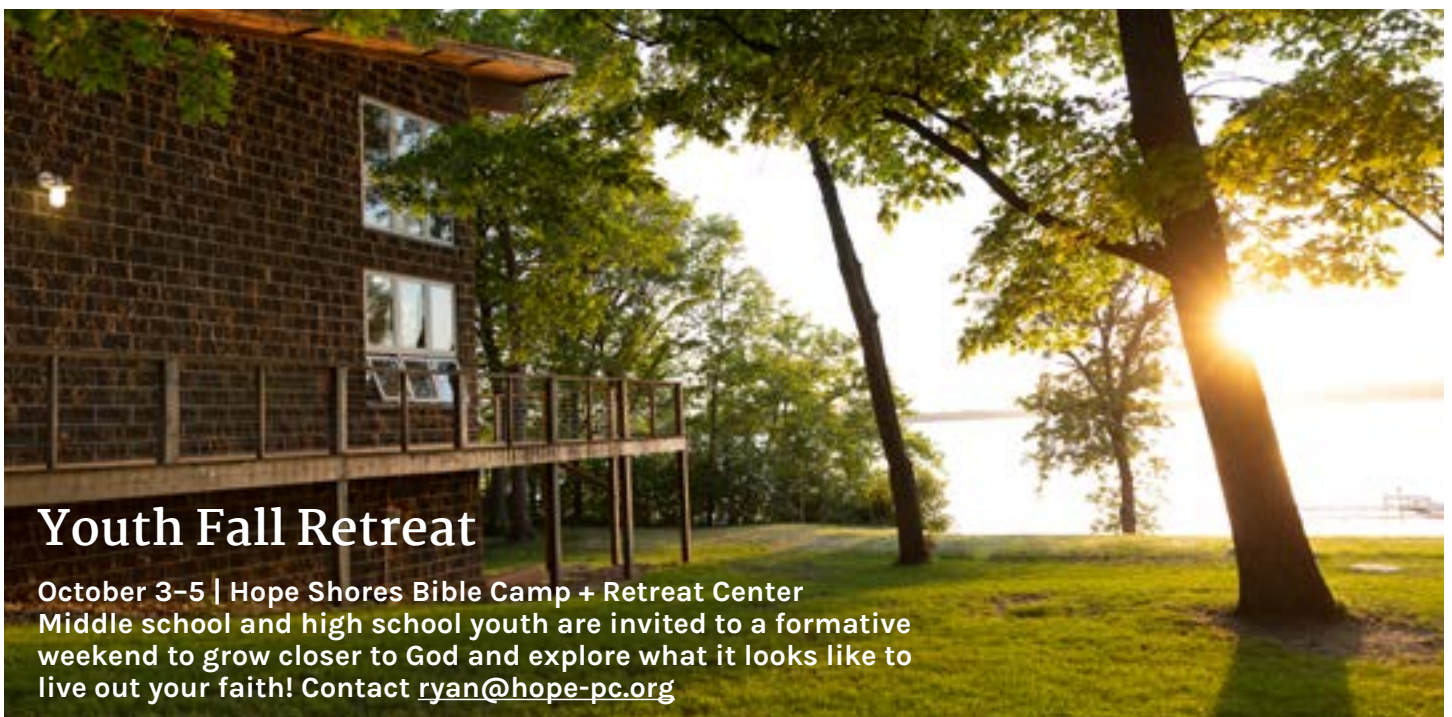
**October 5 | 11:45 am | Chapel**

If you're wondering, "Could Hope Church be my church home?" come have lunch on us, meet some of our staff, ask your questions, and explore ways to get connected to community. RSVP to [kc@hope-pc.org](mailto:kc@hope-pc.org).

## Covenant Partner Class

**October 26 | 11:45 am | Chapel**

If you'd say, "Hope Church is my new church home," take this next step and become a Covenant Partner (member)! Join us for lunch to meet other people new to Hope, connect with elders, and walk through the more official side of being part of Hope Church. RSVP to [kc@hope-pc.org](mailto:kc@hope-pc.org).



## Youth Fall Retreat

**October 3–5 | Hope Shores Bible Camp + Retreat Center**

Middle school and high school youth are invited to a formative weekend to grow closer to God and explore what it looks like to live out your faith! Contact [ryan@hope-pc.org](mailto:ryan@hope-pc.org)





## “Grow Down, Grow Deep” Men’s Retreat

September 19–21 | Hope Shores Bible Camp + Retreat Center

Cesar Castillejos will lead us in four sessions on our theme, “Grow Down, Grow Deep.” Small groups, testimonies, and worship times will help you reflect on the teaching. Opportunities for fellowship and fun with men from Hope and other ECO churches will fill you with joy. A Saturday-only option is available for you to hear all the teachings and participate. Contact Dan Ritchie at [dritchiemn@gmail.com](mailto:dritchiemn@gmail.com). Scan the QR code or visit [hope-pc.org/connect/adults](https://hope-pc.org/connect/adults) to register.



## “Growing in Prayer, Seeking His Face” Women’s Retreat

November 8 | 9:00 am–12:00 pm | Minnehaha Academy Upper School | 3100 W River Parkway Minneapolis, MN

Come away and be refreshed at this half-day retreat for women. Pastor KC DiNardo and Judie Ritchie will lead teachings on prayer. Enjoy morning snacks and fellowship with other women. Registration opens in September.

Contact Jen VanArsdale at [vanarsdale.jennifer@gmail.com](mailto:vanarsdale.jennifer@gmail.com).

## SUNDAYS

### Traditional Worship

9:00 am | Sanctuary

### Adult Connect

9:00 am | Flex Room

Come hear "Growing Up Stories" that have shaped our journeys with Jesus. We'll look at the sermon scripture together before 10:30 worship. [heidi@hope-pc.org](mailto:heidi@hope-pc.org)

### Crossover Fellowship

10:00 am | Commons

### Lao Worship

10:30 am | Community Events Room

### Contemporary Worship

10:30 am | Portland Worship Center

### Oasis

10:30 am | Chapel | September 7

An open learning community that enjoys a variety of speakers. [kc@hope-pc.org](mailto:kc@hope-pc.org)

## WEDNESDAYS

### Alpha

6:00 pm | Portland Worship Center

### Sanctuary Choir

6:30 pm | Chapel | September 3

Singers of all skill levels are welcome to join the choir. We sing on Sunday mornings at the 9:00 am service and have a pre-service warm up and rehearsal at 8:30 am in the Sanctuary. [chloe@hope-pc.org](mailto:chloe@hope-pc.org)

## GROUPS

### Bible Study and Prayer

Mondays | 10:00 am | Community Events Room

Study the Bible verse by verse, letting Scripture inspire our prayers for Hope Church, each other, and our loved ones. Led by David Lenz.

### GriefShare

Tuesdays | September 9–December 2 | 1:30–3:30 pm | Chapel

A GriefShare support group for people grieving the death of a loved one starts soon. It is a 13-week ministry that Hope Church offers involving videos, a participant guide, and invaluable group discussion. For more information, contact Judy Berkness at [jabollar@comcast.net](mailto:jabollar@comcast.net) or to register, visit [www.griefshare.org/groups/269680](http://www.griefshare.org/groups/269680)

### Bearing God's Name: Why Sinai Still Matters by Carmen Joy Imes: Book Study

Thursdays | September 11–November 13 | 10:00–11:30 am | Conference Room

Have you ever wondered what the Old Testament (and the Old Testament law) has to do with your Christian life? Contact Mary Beth Monsma at [marybethmonsma@gmail.com](mailto:marybethmonsma@gmail.com) to learn more before the first session.

### Caregiver Connection Series

Thursdays | September 25–October 30 | 1:30–3:00 pm | Chapel

Join us for a 5-week faith-based discussion group exploring *The Peaceful Caregiver* by Mary Tutterow. Find encouragement, peace, and spiritual refreshment through Scripture and shared experiences. Open to individuals in all caregiving roles and stages. Contact Beth Fondell at [fond0030@proton.me](mailto:fond0030@proton.me) or Russ Winkel at [rwink13@hotmail.com](mailto:rwink13@hotmail.com).

### The Gathering

2nd Thursday of the month | Begins September 11 | 12:00 pm meal

1:00 pm program | Community Events Room

See new and old friends over delicious lunches and diverse programming including musicians, storytellers, photographers, and more. RSVP to Dan and Kory Everson at [danandkory@gmail.com](mailto:danandkory@gmail.com).

### Young Families Bible Study

3rd Thursday of the month | Begins September 18 | 5:15–7:00 pm

Portland Worship Center

Parents of 0–5 year olds, join a group of families that meets once a month for dinner, fellowship, and Bible study. We gather on the third Thursday of each month, enjoy dinner together at 5:15, and begin Bible study at 6:00 with childcare provided! Contact Megan Moya at [meganrmoya@gmail.com](mailto:meganrmoya@gmail.com).

## MEN'S MINISTRY

### Men's Bible Studies

Saturdays | 8:00 am | Zoom

Mondays | 8:00 pm | Zoom

Both meetings: [zoom.us/j/93078610437](https://zoom.us/j/93078610437)

Rich fellowship, prayer, and discussion on the scripture for Sunday worship.

### The Call: Men's Bible Study

Wednesdays | October 1–November 12 | 10:15–11:45 am

Looking for more than casual conversation? The Call is a welcoming men's Bible study focused on growing deeper in faith and friendship. Each week includes time in God's Word, honest sharing, and encouragement to live with purpose and integrity. Come as you are and follow Jesus—side by side. Contact Larry Bell at [lbell5124@gmail.com](mailto:lbell5124@gmail.com).

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY

### When We Pray... We Grow: Women's Bible Study

Wednesdays | October 1–November 12 | 10:15–11:45 am

You're invited to a 7-week journey of prayer, connection, and growth. Experience a warm and welcoming space for women to explore God's Word, share our stories, and discover how prayer strengthens and shapes every part of our lives. No perfect prayers required—just come as you are! Led by Debbie Bell. Contact Kim Gregg at [kgregg44@gmail.com](mailto:kgregg44@gmail.com).

### A Longing For More: Women's Bible Study

Thursdays | September 11–December 11 | 9:30–11:30 am

Join us as we walk together with Jesus. We are learning to slow down and notice, listen to God's voice of love, and respond to His invitations. We experience being seen, known and loved. Led by Linda Heaner. Contact Susie Prin at [suzala45@gmail.com](mailto:suzala45@gmail.com).

### Empty Nest, Full Life: Book Study

Tuesdays | October 14–November 18 | 6:30–7:45 pm

God's not done with your story—He's just shifting chapters. Join us for a fun and faith-filled 6-week journey with insights from Jill Savage's book, *Empty Nest, Full Life*. We'll talk about letting go, navigating relationships with adult kids, and seeking God's next big thing for you. Contact Mary Blazanin at [maryblazanin@gmail.com](mailto:maryblazanin@gmail.com).

## Women's Ministry Pop-In Bonfire

Friday, September 26  
6:30–8:30 pm | Hope Church

As we head into Hope's annual theme "Growing Up," the Women's Ministry team is hosting a women's pop-up bonfire to kick off the program year. Campfires bring us back to childhood roots and together for a shared experience. Join us by popping in for fellowship, conversation, games and s'mores. Contact Jen VanArsdale at [vanarsdale.jennifer@gmail.com](mailto:vanarsdale.jennifer@gmail.com)





## SUNDAYS

### Sunday Funday

9:00 am | Garden Room | K-5th

Kids 5th grade and under are invited to an hour of play and Bible time! [julie.lewis@hope-pc.org](mailto:julie.lewis@hope-pc.org)

### Wiggly Worship

10:30 am | Nursery (0-2 y.o.) + Garden Room (3-5 y.o.)

Little ones will listen to a Bible story, sing songs, make friends, and play! [julie.lewis@hope-pc.org](mailto:julie.lewis@hope-pc.org)

### Kid's Church

During 10:30 am Service | Mountain Room | K-5th

After the children's message, kids are dismissed to worship and engage with God's story of love in kid-friendly ways! Kids will rejoin their parents at the end of the service. [michaela@hope-pc.org](mailto:michaela@hope-pc.org)

### Breakfast Club

Begins September 7 | 9:00 am | Youth Room | MS + HS Youth

This space is designed for our youth community to connect before worship and intentionally study God's word together. Afterwards, we will join the adults for worship and sit together in the PWC.

[clara@hope-pc.org](mailto:clara@hope-pc.org)

### High School Connect—NEW!

Begins September 14 | 6:00 pm | Youth Room

A great place for youth to grow in their faith and be a part of a faith community. Come for snacks, worship, and good fellowship! [ryan@hope-pc.org](mailto:ryan@hope-pc.org)

## WEDNESDAYS

### KWAM

Begins September 10 | 6:30 pm | Community Events Room | Enter Door 12 | K-5th

Kids. Will. Always. Matter. K-5th graders are invited to a weekly gathering where they'll experience God's big story of love through music, games, Bible stories and small groups. [michaela@hope-pc.org](mailto:michaela@hope-pc.org)

### Middle School Connect

Begins September 10 | 6:00 pm | Youth Room | MS Youth

Middle schoolers are invited to engage in Christ-centered community through games, worship, small group discussion, and learn from God's word. Join us for a meal and program to follow. Invite your friends!! [clara@hope-pc.org](mailto:clara@hope-pc.org).

### High School Student Leaders—NEW!

Begins September 10 | 6:00 pm | Meet by the Fireplace | HS Youth

Wednesday Night Youth Programming continues with a NEW invitation to High School Youth. Grow in faith and join the High School Student Leader Team. Be disciplined as you help with Middle School Connect or KWAM programs. Heidi Connors will inspire and equip you to serve and grow as a leader in the Kingdom work at Hope Church. [heidi@hope-pc.org](mailto:heidi@hope-pc.org).



Listen.

Love.

Learn.

Lead.

Launch.

## EVENTS

### **KWAM Fall Harvest Party**

Wednesday, October 29 | 6:30 pm | Community Events Room | Enter Door 12

Families with 5th graders and under (yes, preschoolers too!) are invited to this fun night of costumes, games and treats!

### **KWAM's Got Talent + Dinner**

Wednesday, November 19 | 6:30 pm | Community Events Room | Enter Door 12

The whole family is invited to this special night where families share a meal together and kids get to show off their talents!

### **Youth Fall Retreat**

October 3-5 | Hope Shores

See page 8 for more information.

### **Youth Apologetics Conference**

November 7-8 | Grace Church | MS + HS Youth

This fall we will be taking our youth to a two-day conference at Grace Church! There will be speakers, worship, and fun small group sessions. At this year's Reality Apologetics Student Conference, they will be pulling back the curtain to show students how Christianity has impacted our world. [ryan@hope-pc.org](mailto:ryan@hope-pc.org)

### **Urbana 2025**

December 28-December 31 | Phoenix, AZ | Register by October 31

Hope Church is inviting 17-28 year olds interested in embracing their role in God's global mission to travel together to Urbana 2025! [greta@hope-pc.org](mailto:greta@hope-pc.org)

### **Camp Workday**

Saturday, October 25 | 9:00 am-3:00 pm | Hope Shores

Anyone who is interesting in volunteering to help clean up and close our facilities for the season, there will be a wide variety of things to do—cleaning, small outdoor projects, and more skilled jobs. Hope Shores is a special place, and you can experience it on our workday. It's a joy to serve with others. Come and join us for a wonderful day together! [greta@hope-pc.org](mailto:greta@hope-pc.org)



## SERVE

### Good Neighbor Team — Refugee support and friendship

Offer practical support and friendship to a refugee family we welcomed in January. Serve with other Hope volunteers as your schedule allows. [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### Loaves + Fishes To Go Meals Distribution

August 28, September 25, October 23, November 25  
3-4:30 pm Food prep and set-up  
4:30-6 pm Meal packing and distribution, clean up  
Contact [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org) or sign up to serve other weekdays at [tinyurl.com/HopeLoavesandFishes](https://tinyurl.com/HopeLoavesandFishes)

### Parent Share Class + Children's Team

September 11, October 9, November 13 | Hope Church  
**Class** | 6:15-8:00 pm

A support group for parents facilitated by Tamara Dauphin-Whear, Mental Health Counselor and Coach.  
612-388-8514 or [tamarawhear@gmail.com](mailto:tamarawhear@gmail.com)

**Children's Team** | 6:00-8:15 pm

Help with activities for children during Parent Share.  
[peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### USA Homestays

Students from around the world come to attend local universities and many would love to connect with an American family. Host short-term (1-2 weeks) or long-term (3+ months). Contact Ben Robison at [benr@usa-homestays.org](mailto:benr@usa-homestays.org) or visit [usahomestays.org](https://usahomestays.org).

### Union Gospel Mission Twin Cities

Come alongside residents one time or on a regular basis:

- Drive residents from UGM to Hope Church for Sunday worship. Time commitment is 1 Sunday a month. Pick up residents at 9:45 a.m. and return to the campus by 12:30 p.m.
- Serve a meal once a month.

Contact Dave Campbell at [dcampbell@ugmtc.org](mailto:dcampbell@ugmtc.org).

## DONATE

Donate funds to our community partners serving neighbors in need:

**Community Emergency Service** — [cesmn.org/donate](https://cesmn.org/donate)

**Loaves and Fishes** — [loavesandfishesmn.org/donate](https://loavesandfishesmn.org/donate)

**VEAP** — [veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds](https://veap.org/ways-to-give/donate-funds)

**Every Meal** — [everymeal.org/give](https://everymeal.org/give)

**Donate food items to Community Emergency Service and VEAP**—bring to the marked grocery cart in the Link.

For most needed items lists go to:

[cesmn.org/donate-food-goods](https://cesmn.org/donate-food-goods)

[veap.org/ways-to-give/most-needed-items](https://veap.org/ways-to-give/most-needed-items)

## PRAY

Pray for mission partners. Contact [peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)

### Pray with others serving refugees

1st, 2nd, and 3rd Thursdays | 2:30 pm | Zoom  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81236437761>



## VINE + BRANCHES

### Store Hours

Wednesdays | 5:00-8:00 pm

Thursdays | 1:00-4:00 pm

Saturdays | 10:00 am-1:00 pm

Donate clothing and household items to Vine and Branches—bring to the marked bin in the Link.

For accepted donations list:

[hope-pc.org/hope-center/vine-branches](https://hope-pc.org/hope-center/vine-branches)





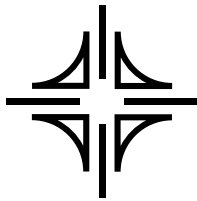
## Walk4Water

September 28 | 9:00 am breakfast | 10:30 am Worship

Walk following worship | Hope Church

Raising funds for water projects and ministry in Africa and Southeast Asia

[peggy@hope-pc.org](mailto:peggy@hope-pc.org)



### Congratulations to:

Anne and Sam Nelson on the birth of Douglas Robert Nelson on March 28, 2025.

### Sympathy and Prayers to:

The family of Tom Foy who died April 5, 2025.

The family of Don Mahon who died April 19, 2025.

The family of Dottie Haugen who died May 19, 2025.

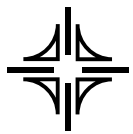
The family of Jay Olson who died May 22, 2025.

The family of Cindy Forsgren who died June 27, 2025.

The family of Carol Thronson Koehnke who died July 4, 2025.

The family of Norma Bittner who died July 10, 2025.

The family of Pat Mathews who died August 6, 2025.



HOPE  
CHURCH

7132 Portland Avenue S.  
Richfield, MN 55423

[hope-pc.org](http://hope-pc.org)

612-866-4055

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## Walk4Water

September 28

See page 15 for more information



Sunday Worship | 9:00 am Traditional | 10:30 am Contemporary